

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: DECONTROL AFTER ONE YEAR

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT

SUBJECT: LABOR REACTIONS TO JUNE 15-16 ELECTION RESULTS

REF: ROME 7069

1. ONE OF THE IMMEDIATE CONSEQUENCES OF THE JUNE 15-16 REGIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS IN WHICH THE COMMUNIST PARTY MADE HEAVY GAINS HAS BEEN A POSTPONEMENT OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS WITHIN CISL AGAINST MINORITY LEADER AND FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL VITO SCALIA. THE CISL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING WHICH WAS TO TAKE PLACE ON JUNE 18 HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL JULY 16-18 AND COULD CONCEIVABLY BE FURTHER DELAYED UNTIL SEPTMEMBER. ACCORDING TO SEVERAL SOURCES, CGIL LEADER LICIANO LAMA URGED CISL SECRETARY GENERAL BRUNO STORTI ON JUNE 17 TO TAKE SUCH ACTION IN ORDER TO PREVENT AN IMMEDIATE SPLIT WITHIN CISL.

2. DURING A CONVERSATION WITH ONE OF THE KEY CISL MINORITY LEADERS, PAOLO SARTORI, SECRETARY GENERAL OF FISBA (FARM WORKERS), THE LATTER INDICATED TO THE LABOR OFFICER THAT STORTI'S DECISION

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COULD OFFER ONE LST OPPORTUNITY TO REORIENT THE ALIGNMENT

OF FORCES WITHIN CISL AWAY FROM ORGANIC UNITY WITH THE COMMUNIT DOMINATED CGIL. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT COULD ALSO REPRESENT A DELAYING TACTIC WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE UNITY FORCES TO FURTHER UNDERMINE THE MINORITY OPPOSITION AT THE PROCINVIAL LEVEL. QUOTE DELAY IS A KEY ELEMENT IN THE COMMUNIST-CGIL STRATEGY" UNQUOTE.

3. ACCORDING TO SARTORI, STORTI IS NOW UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, PARTICULARLY THE LEFT WING FORZE NUOVO FACTION, LED BY DONAT-CATTIN, TO ARREST THE UNITARY PROCESS WHICH THREATENS TO MAKE THE ITALIAN LABOR MOVEMENT AN INSTRUMENT OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY. SARTORI SAID THAT DONAT-CATTIN HAS INDICATED TO HIM AS WELL AS STORTI THAT SHOULD THE MINORITY WITHIN CISL BE CONSTRAINED TO SECEDE OVER THE UNITY ISSUE IT WOULD RECEIVE THE SUPPORT OF FORZE NUOVO, WHICH UNTIL NOW HAS TENDED TO FAVOR UNITY.

4. THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE CISL MINORITY APPROVED A DOCUMENT ON JUNE 18 WHICH SEVERELY CRITICIZES THE ITALIAN LABOR MOVEMENT (AS WELL AS POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL CIRCLES) FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE COMMUNIST SUCCESSES THROUGHT THEIR RECENT UNRELENTING CRITICISM OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

5. IN BALANCE SARTORI IS MORE PESSIMISTIC THAN HE HAS EVER BEEN OVER THE LIKELY SUCCESS OF EFFORTS TO REORIENT THE CISL MAJORITY AWAY FROM UNITY WITH THE CGIL. ACCORDING TO SARTORI, THE ONLY HOPE FOR BLOCKING UNITY IS TO CONVINCE STORTI THAT THE CISL MINORITY IS DETERMINED TO SECEDE. SHOULD SECESSION OCCUR, THE MOST PROPITIOUS DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE FOR THE CISL MINORITY TO UNITE WITH THE UIL MAJORITY (WHICH ALSO OPPOSE UNITY) UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF UIL SECRETARY GENERAL RAFAEL VANNI TO FORM A NEW DEMOCRATIC CONFEDERATION. VOLPE

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